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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/608,804

06/30/2003

Nobuko Yamamoto

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02/26/2008

FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

BAUSCH, SARAE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1634

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/26/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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| <p align="center">Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</p> | <p>Application No. 10/608,804</p> | <p>Applicant(s) YAMAMOTO ET AL.</p> | |
| | <p>Examiner SARAE BAUSCH</p> | <p>Art Unit 1634</p> | |

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 01 February 2008 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☒ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☒ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☒ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: 74-77.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information *Disclosure Statement*(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.

/Sarae Bausch/
Examiner
Art Unit: 1634

Continuation of 3. NOTE: The proposed amendment to the claims presents additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims. Additionally the proposed amendment to the claims, specifically to recite that individual spots "in each section" are sufficiently spaced from each other to conduct a complex-forming reaction changes the scope of the claims and requires further search and consideration.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: The proposed amendment to the claim has not been entered as the amendment changes the scope of the claims and requires further search and consideration. Specifically the claims previously did not previously require that individual spots were in each square section.

With regard to applicants remarks directed to the rejections under 35 USC 102(b) anticipated by Brown et al., as stated in the final office action (see pg. 9-10), the claims do not require that individual spots are spotted as depicted in figure A provided for the response filed 08/14/2007, the claims do not require that the test sample is spotted separately or that the spots are not in contact with each other, the claims merely require that the individual spots are spotted in a square section and are sufficiently spaced from each other to conduct a complex forming reaction. Brown et al. teach spotting two test samples together on an array and is able to detect a transgenic cDNA hybridization but not WT, which teaches that individual spots are sufficiently spaced from each other to conduct a complex forming reaction.

With regard to applicants remarks directed to the rejection under 35 102(b) anticipated by Southern et al, as stated in the paragraph above and the final office action (see pg. 10-11), the claims do not require that individual spots are spotted as depicted in figure A provided for in the response filed 08/14/2007. The claims merely require spotting a predetermined liquid amount in each square section so that the spots are sufficiently spaced from each other to conduct a complex forming reaction. As such, Southern does disclose a method in which a predetermined amount of liquid is spotted in each square section and individual spots are sufficiently spaced to detect a hybridization signal (see pg. 11-12 of the response mailed 11/02/2007).